

**COMMON COUNCIL**  
**MARCH 20, 2012**

The Common Council, City of Madison, Indiana, met in regular session at 5:30 PM in the Council Chamber, City Hall. Mayor Welch led the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Present; Hodges, Berry, Jones, Henderson, Lee, Kellems (6). Absent; Backus (1).

Motion made by Berry to accept the March 6, 2012 minutes. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried (6-0).

**Resolution or Bills**

Resolution 8-2012 is tabled.

**Reports from Department Heads**

**Randy Eggenpiller**

Just for information, bids were taken for the Greenhills sewer improvement. The E. First Street and Harrison Street project is waiting on the bridge to be closed. At Broadway and Third, there have been water flow issues and it is being worked on to improve that.

Berry asked about the crumbling concrete on the Michigan Road sidewalks. Randy stated that is a state issue with the concrete. INDOT will have to decide what to do. Mayor Welch stated he had been in contact with INDOT and they are in the final stages of working it out.

**Tyson Eblen**

Chief Thurston and Major Perkins are out of town for training. The Merit Board voted to remove probationary status for Kurtis Wallace and Ben Flint. Applications are currently being taken through 4/6/2012. INDOT & Kentucky are working to come up with an agreement so that Indiana officers can enforce the 3 ton weight limit on the bridge.

**Dave Stucker**

The Park Board has changed their meeting to Thursday, March 22 due to Spring Break. The parks are slowly ramping up for spring and summer.

**Steve Horton**

City has been on standby for Madison Township Fire Department. Their engine suffered a malfunction. Thursday will be SCBA & Gas mask fitting tests for the water department and members of SWAT.

**Andrew Forrester**

The text system is up and running, so far 650 people have signed up. Staycation is in full swing. Thanks to all of the organizations that are participating. Documents should be up and ready to go for the website by the next council meeting. Student government day will be May 22<sup>nd</sup>. So please mark your calendars as this will be an all-day event. The Christmas Parade planning is in full swing. If you want more details, please contact Mr. Kelsey at MCHS.

**Mark Johnson**

Building permits are up. There have been several additions and several new home starts. We are working with Shawe Jr. High Honor Society to clean up the hillside on Heritage Trail. There have been a lot of trash complaints and letters are being sent out.

Community Band report-Wanted the council to know there is a community band. The group started out with eight players and now has between twenty-five and thirty-seven. Currently practicing at the Brown Gym. The Band prides themselves as being ambassadors for the City of Madison. A schedule has been passed out and everyone is encouraged to attend.

**Bills on Second Reading**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-5  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF MADISON, INDIANA  
AMENDING TREE ORDINANCE NO. 1995-3**

Read by Jenner-opened for discussion.

Kathy Rolfling-Chairperson of the Tree Board gave a brief background of the tree ordinance.

Hodges stated that she was sponsoring the ordinance and is very happy with what the tree board has done.

Motion made by Henderson to suspend the rules and move on to the third reading. Seconded by Lee. All in favor, motion carried (6-0).

Roll call vote. All in favor, Ordinance No. 2012-5 passed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-3**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF**  
**THE CITY OF MADISON, INDIANA ESTABLISHING AN**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND**

Henderson stated that he would like to withdraw Ordinance No. 2012-3. He stated there is not enough support at this time and there is no reason to continue. When the Blue Ribbon Committee comes up with some suggestions, maybe at that time, it can move forward.

Mayor Welch advised that he would have hoped it would have stay tabled until the panel could give their thoughts. He stated he would not start the Microloan program again. It is up to the Finance Committee and the council.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for comment.

Linda Lytle-CVB-Is in total support of the loan program. It is necessary to help get businesses downtown.

Bob Ems-President of Main Street Program-Supports the loan program. Any help that businesses can get to help them succeed is necessary. The downtown businesses are an industry.

Henderson stated the USDA has guidelines that are plain. If you follow their guidelines, I think the program could go on.

Mayor Welch commented that he would refer to the Finance Committee for some guidelines. That is the direction we were headed for both programs.

Warren Auxier-Thanks to council members that took the time to slow down this process. Initially this was the Mayor's loan program. The Council had no involvement.

Mayor Welch stated I don't want to see any guidelines that would overrule USDA. Locally we can add to the guidelines as long as it doesn't take away. Considering what happened, the citizens need more guidelines than that.

Wayne Engle-question about the bridge weight limit. Is a city officer going to be required to man this side of the bridge?

Eblen stated that there is no way an officer could be there at all times.

Welch said he had talked with INDOT and the State Police will be monitoring it from 6am-10pm.

Engle also commented about how dark it is at the Broadway fountain at night. Would like to know if any thought has been put into lights to help make the fountain the focal point.

Stucker commented that they are working on the electrical issues at the Fountain and hope to have everything lit up by summer.

Stephanie Hellman-The new lights at the fountain are ugly and they blind you.  
Dorothy Cochran-Sound system is much better and you can actually hear.

Henderson wanted to remind everyone about the bridge meeting on Thursday. Wanted to let everyone know the reason Councilman Backus was not in attendance was that his brother-in-law passed away. Officers are stopping dual wheeled pickups and pickups pulling utility trailers that try to cross the bridge.

Mayor Welch encourages everyone to attend the bridge meeting on Thursday at the Brown Gym from 6-8pm. This was initially set up for information on the bridge closure from April 25-29, but probably the weight limit will be addressed.

Hodges asked if SR 56 was open. Welch stated that 56 will be closed outside of Vevay, but you can get to Markland.

Hodges also wanted to thank Andrew for taking charge of the Staycation event. A lot of people are taking advantage of the activities.

Robin Henderson-Thanks to councilman Kellems for keeping his campaign promise of putting the city's checkbook on the website. Thanks also to Mr. Kalb for getting this accomplished so quickly.

Kalb stated that we are moving forward, things just take time.

Berry thanked Kalb for the detailed council minutes.

Kalb stated he has help.

Motion by Henderson to adjourn, seconded by Kellems. All in favor motion carries (6-0). Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

**APPROVED** \_\_\_\_\_  
**President Pro-Tempore Laura Hodges**

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**William J. Kalb, Clerk-Treasurer**